

HEALTH ISSUES AND PRIORITIES

Prioritizing Method

The members of the Carroll County Health Council through the use of primary and secondary data determined the leading health concerns. This council consisted of representatives of county government, education, health care, the local ministerial alliance and local citizens groups.

The major task of the council was to identify the top health problems of Carroll County in rank order. Using an modified version of the J.J. Hanlon method, the council rated each health problem according to the size of the health problem to reflect the percentage of the local population affected, the seriousness of the health problem, and the effectiveness or impact of intervening in the problem. Once the problems had been rated on size, seriousness and effectiveness of interventions, the PEARL test was applied to determine the Propriety, Economics, Acceptability, Resources available and Legality of intervening.

Prioritized Health Problems

From the council's list of perceived health problems the following health problems were established through the rating and prioritizing process.

PRIORITIZED HEALTH PROBLEMS

- 1. TEEN PREGNANCY**
- 2. DENTAL CARE**
- 3. YOUTH HEALTH ISSUES**
ALCOHOL, DRUG AND TOBACCO USE
WELLNESS PROGRAMS
EATING DISORDERS
- 4. CORONARY/OTHER HEART DISEASES**
- 5. HYPERTENSION/STROKE**
- 6. CANCER**
- 7. BREAST CANCER**

Problems Selected for Intervention

The Carroll County Health Council chose a unique approach to working on their prioritized health problem list. They elected to work on all the issues and formed a sub-committee to explore their options on strategies and possible interventions.